

Docket No.: SON-2024

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Motoshi ASANO et al.

Confirmation No.: 3648

Application No.: 09/774,682

Art Unit: 3628

Filed: February 1, 2001

Examiner: F. Poinvil

For: ELECTRONIC-MONEY SETTLEMENT

METHOD AND INFORMATION

PROCESSING APPARATUS THEREFOR

REQUEST FOR REVIEW OF FINAL REJECTION

MS AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This is in full and timely response to the Final Office Action mailed on June 19, 2006.

Paragraph 2 of the Final Office Action includes a rejection of claims 1, 3, 4, 9-23 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over UK Patent Application No. GB 2 303 956 to Tomoyuki Nonaka et al. (Nonaka).

This rejection is traversed at least for the following reasons.

<u>Claims 1, 3-4</u> - Claims 3-4 are dependent upon claim 1. Claim 1 is drawn to an electronic-money settlement method comprising the steps of:

recording, in a portable electronic device (5A) and a management center (3A), information on a deposited amount of money, said information being stored in said portable electronic device (5A) in the form of electronic money representing a monetary value; and